

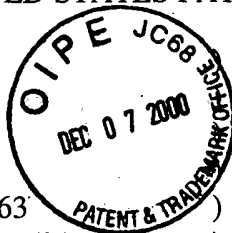
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In The Reissue Of

U.S. Pat. No. 5,413,774

Reissue Serial No. 09/115,963

For: Long-Lasting Aqueous Dispersions)
Or Suspensions Of Pressure-)
Resistant Gas-filled Microvesicles)
And Methods For The Preparation)
Thereof.)



Examiner: Hartley

Art Unit 1616

#19/0
RECEIVED #19/0
3.13.01

DEC 11 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

December 7, 2000

Box Reissue
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend this reissue application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

✓ Please cancel claims 4-6, 23-25, and 27-29. ✓✓✓✓

Please amend the following claims without prejudice:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of making a contrast agent having resistance against collapse from pressure increases when used in ultrasonic echography, said contrast agent consisting of gas-filled microvesicles suspended in an aqueous liquid carrier phase, the microvesicles being microbubbles filled with a physiologically acceptable gas wherein the gas is bounded by a stabilizing layer of one or more film forming phospholipids in lamellar or laminar form at the gas/liquid interface [bounded by an evanescent gas/liquid interfacial closed surface], said method comprising the step of forming the microvesicles in the presence of the [a physiologically acceptable gas, said] physiologically acceptable gas [being] selected from the